considering the views/points expressed by the Supreme Court in one of the Judgement in the state of West Bengal Versus Falguni Datta; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, if not, what are the specific reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to amend Essential Commodities Act. However, the details regarding this judgement have been called for from the Government of West Bengal.

Export of Edible Oil

2434. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced its plan to permit the export of edible oil in consumer packs;

(b) whether this decision of export of edible oil was arrived at taking advantage of low price of edible oil prevailing in the market and promotion of export of value added agricultural items;

(c) if so, to what extent the edible oil was exported and the what extent it helped the Government; and

(d) whether the export of edible oil has led to increase in prices of edible oil for internal consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) As per the current Export-Import Policy, export of certain edible oils is permitted subject to licensing.

Having regard to the higher production of oilseeds and hence edible oils during the current year, the Government has decided to allow the export of all vegetable oils as listed in the said Import-Export Policy in consumer packs upto 5 kg. except in case of groundnut oil.

(c) and (d) No notification to this effect has been issued and as such the export of edible oil in consumer packs has not started. Thus the question of increase in prices of edible oils for internal consumption on account of export of edible oils does not arise.

Public Distribution System in Urban and Rural Areas

2435. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the break-up of rural and urban population separately served by Public Distribution System as on March, 1993 and how it compares with 1991 and 1992;

(b) what was the comparative off-take of foodgrains during the above period; and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure availability of foodgrains at Public Distribution System, outlets mainly in the rural and tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is universal in character from the Central Government's point of view. The entire population of the country, whether urban or rural, is entitled to draw commodities distributed through the PDS. The offtake of rice and wheat in 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 by the States/UTs for distribution through PDS is given below:—

(in lakh tonnes)

offtake of PDS by States/UTs

	Rice	Wheat
1990-91	76.67	69.00
1991-92	98.60	85.43
1992-93	91.58	72.17

States/UTs have been requested to make arrangements to deliver the PDS commodities at the doorsteps of the fair price shops (FPS). They have been requested to enforce strictly the provisions of Essential Commodities Act and

similar other legislations to curb unfair trade practices indulged in by traders and prevent diversion of PDS commodities into the open market. They have also been requested to constitute Vigilance Committees at the Fair Price Shop level to oversee the supply and distribution of PDS commodities. The Revamped PDS scheme has been launched with effect from 1.1.1992 to improve the reach of the PDS in desert, drought-prone, hilly and tribal areas. Two million tonnes of foodgrains have been earmarked as additional allocation for areas covered by RPDS.

Appointment of Director, Super Bazar

2436. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions including all perks, facilities on which Director of Super Bazar is appointed;

(b) whether the present Director's house rent is about Rs. 14,500/- per month and an air conditioned car has been purchased for his use;

(c) if so, the details and authorities who sanctioned these things;

(d) what is the monthly expenditure incurred for running the car;

(e) whether the Ministry had disapproved renting of such premises at such a high rent and whether six months rent was paid in advance;

(f) whether Rs. two lakhs have been spent for furnishing and purchase of two conditioners and who approved them;

(g) whether Government (Ministry) have received any communication from any member in this matter; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) There is no post of Director in Super Bazar, Delhi either in the Managing Committee or Executive Management.

(b) to (h) Do not arise.

आयातित खाद्य तेलों के वितरण के संबंध में निर्धारित मानदंड

2437. श्री अजीत जोगी :
चौधरी हरि सिंह :

क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आयातित खाद्य तेलों के वितरण के लिये क्या-क्या मानदण्ड निर्धारित किये गये हैं;

(ख) क्या आयातित खाद्य तेलों के प्रयोग के संबंध में कोई मूल्यांकन किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों का आयातित खाद्य तेल का आवंटन, आयातित तेल की उपलब्धता, राज्य सरकारों की मांग तथा पहले आवंटित किए गए खाद्य तेल को उठाने की गति आदि जैसी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मासिक आधार पर किया जाता है।

(ख) और (ग) राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों का आयातित खाद्य तेल का आवंटन केवल सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए किया जाता है। राज्य के भीतर उसके आवंटन की जिम्मेदारी संबंधित राज्य सरकार की होती है।

Recommendations of Central Consumer's Protection Council

2438. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Consumer's Protection Council has recommended for setting up of quasi Judicial Corporation for regularising the working of public utility services like Telecommunications, Banking, Insurance, Transport, Electricity, Irrigation etc; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-